Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 /059 W

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P 131430Z APR 77 FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4745

CONFIDENTIAL KINGSTON 1685

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: EAID, JM, US

SUBJECT: JOINT US/JAMAICAN DISCUSSIONS ON EXPANDED ASSISTANCE

PROGRAM

REF: KINGSTON 1613

- 1. DON BRYCE, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN TRADE, CONFIRMED TO DCM APRIL 12 THAT THE INFORMATION AND INVITATION CONTAINED REFTEL WERE "OFFICIAL APPROACH" TO USG, AND THAT GOJ DOES HOPES US GROUP WILL BE PRESENT IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE FOR PRIME MINISTER'S PRESENTATION OF PRODUCTION PLAN TO PARLIAMENT ON APRIL 22.
- 2. EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS AGAINST US GROUP BEING PRESENT AT THE PARLIAMENTARY PRESENTATION OWING POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. AS REPORTED IN SEPTEL OPPOSITION IS BOYCOTTING OPENING OF PARLIAMENT THAT MORNING; AND US PRESENCE WOULD NOT ONLY BECOME HIGHLY POLITICIZED ACTION, BUT ALSO WOULD TOO CLOSELY IDENTIFY US WITH PRODUCTION PLAN WHICH BY MANY ACCOUNTS IS LIKELY TO BE AS MUCH RHETORIC AS SUBSTANCE. ASIDE FROM THESE CONSIDERATIONS, THERE IS THE PRACTICAL ONE THAT, IF PAST PATTERNS APPLY, PRESENTATION IS LIABLE TO TAKE UP TO FIVE HOURS.

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- 3. BRYCE AND OTHER KEY JAMAICAN OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN ADVISED IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO HAVE AT LEAST A SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT US GROUP CAN BE BETTER PREPARED FOR DISCUSSIONS ON ARRIVAL IN KINGSTON.
- 4. WE HAVE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT, UNTIL ACTUAL TECHNICAL

DISCUSSIONS START, IT WOULD BE BETTER TO KEEP
ANY "OFFICIAL APPROACHES" IN USUAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS TO
AVOID CONFUSION, I.E., WE WOULD PREFER
THAT OVERTURES SUCH AS THAT REPORTED IN REFTEL BE
MADE BY FOREIGN MINISTRY TO AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE OR
ALTERNATIVELY, BY JAMAICAN EMBASSY, WASHINGTON TO
DEPT. BRYCE AGREED THAT THIS SHOULD BE THE CASE.
GERARD

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Message Attributes

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